碧也ぴんく

TENKA ICHI !!

Pink Aomata
presents
Tenka Ichi!!

1

PINK AOMATA

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TENKA ICHI!!
天下一!!

1-3 武井 虎
Tora Takei
Hey.
How do you read this kanji?
Tora?! Seriously?!
That's not a girl's name!
HA
Is your dad a Hanshin fan?!
What were your parents thinking?!
It's...
...Tora.
Oh, right... ...your house.
It's a martial arts dojo, right?
Martial arts dojo?
What kind?
Judo?
Kendo?
Gasp!

.....
Ohhh.
...out the other
In one ear...
I knew it.
Ancient ...?
I don't get it.
Limm.
Pressure points...
Grappling...
...and staff techniques.
RELUCTANT
...Ancient Budo.
SHOCK
At your house.
Then, there's always...
...a ton of sweaty men, right?
Our family has only one successor.
That's my brother.
I have nothing to do with them.
Ah!
They're just pupils.
Ancient Arts
Pupils?!
Successor?!
Oops
Fist of the North Star

Well...
...different.
You're kinda...
CHUCKLE
Well...
...I guess that makes sense.
THIS IS BAD.
...
Yeah...
You have this aura around you.
TAKE-DO-O
I RAISED...
...SOME RED FLAGS.
BREATHE-IN
Here goes...
BOW
FANATIC
FANATIC
BOW

Enter.
Father... ...it's Tora.
I have returned.
I see.
カタン KNEEL
Father... ...I have a request.
ばん! SLAM
Please... ...grant me a cellphone!

A cellphone?
High school students do not need a cellphone.
They do too!
SHOOTS UP
I'll get teased for not having one!
Everyone has one!
If I can't even email or blog, I won't make any friends!
Don't be foolish.
Just like in middle school...
Those types of people...
It is better not to associate with them.
You knew better, Tora.
I got mine when I entered college.
Times have changed...
I hate this!
I can't make any friends!
WAIL

Why was I forced to do martial arts?
I don't get it.
Tora at five years old. She wanted to do ballet.
Only martial arts fanatics do this stuff.
I didn't ask for this name or dojo.
TAKES AFTER HER FATHER.
MANLY FACE
Before I realized it...
I have a scary face!
なんだおぬし
MARTIAL ARTS WALK.
Right hand, right leg. Left hand, left leg. In sync.
My movements are weird!
SHOCK
びっ
STIFF LOOKS
見越し
Moving only your head to look
People always say I'm too stiff!
Tora.
I think it's a good name.
Since the founder built his castle here...
...our family has served to preserve it.
Takeiryu is an ancient martial arts style from the Keicho Era.

People who bully others to protect themselves...
You can find them anywhere.
Just forget about them.
It's nothing to be ashamed of.
Don't take their words to heart.
You know, Bro...
You're becoming like dad.
You preach just like him.
It runs in the family?
Really?
I JUST FORGOT IT.
I'LL BRING IT TOMORROW.
WHY NOT?!
IS IT BECAUSE OF YOUR FAMILY?
NO WAY!
YOU DON'T HAVE A CELL-PHONE?
Tsuyama Station

IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.
DON'T TAKE THEIR WORDS TO HEART.
That's easier said than done.
I'm not that strong.
I really hate this.
It's so annoying...
I really want to get away from here.

This castle...
...is called Hirayama Castle, right?
Even at a time like this.
I guess I'll eat my lunch.
I'm hungry.
GURGGLE
A castle symbolizes power and authority.
Once the war ended, and peace returned...
...the feudal lords began building castles.
I GUESS IT MAKES SENSE ...
THERE BEING A CASTLE HERE...
They even had stone walls and towers.
Though the ones in the Middle Ages didn't.
A CASTLE NUT.
...were called mountain castles.
GREAT ...
The ones built from the Middle Ages to the Warring States period...

The castles during the Warring States period were forts.
A refuge for the fiefdom.
The villagers and the farmers...
...women, children, and the elderly...
Upon enemy attacks, they would escape into the castle.
Take this castle for example...
All the way down at the bottom...
...was where the people entered.
NOT INTERESTED ...
By the way, who do you think...
...was the first to build a castle with a stone wall and tower?
It was Oda Nobunaga.
Oh...
If the cuckoo...
...does not sing...
...kill it.
That's right!
That was a legend created by the people.
DARN ...
I'M SO STUPID.
NOW I GOT HIM GOING.

GLANCE
HE'S...
...PROBABLY GOING TO START DRONING ON...
!!!
OH MY GOD!!
COSPLAY ?!
A PERVERT ?!
A magnificent castle.
The top floor was made of gold!
Azuchi Castle's tower was seven stories high.
I SAW IT ON THE NEWS!
PRETENDING TO BE A TOUR GUIDE...
...HE LED A GIRL INTO SOME CASTLE...

...AND FORCIBLY RAPED HER!

He didn't follow me, right?
Oh, crap!
There's no one here on weekdays!
ドォ
STOMP
SCREECH
STOMP
オ
オ
ドドド
STOMP
オ
STOMP

Ex...
Excuse me!
The castle gate was breached!
It's chaos!!
Ah!
トリ
ニ
BUMP
Capture them!
SHOCK
Twenty-five!
SHA-
SHAA
ガシ
GRAB

A woman!
She's mine!
CENSORED
GRUNT
GRUNT
GRUNT
AGHHHH
Huh?
You a man or woman?
GRAB
KICK

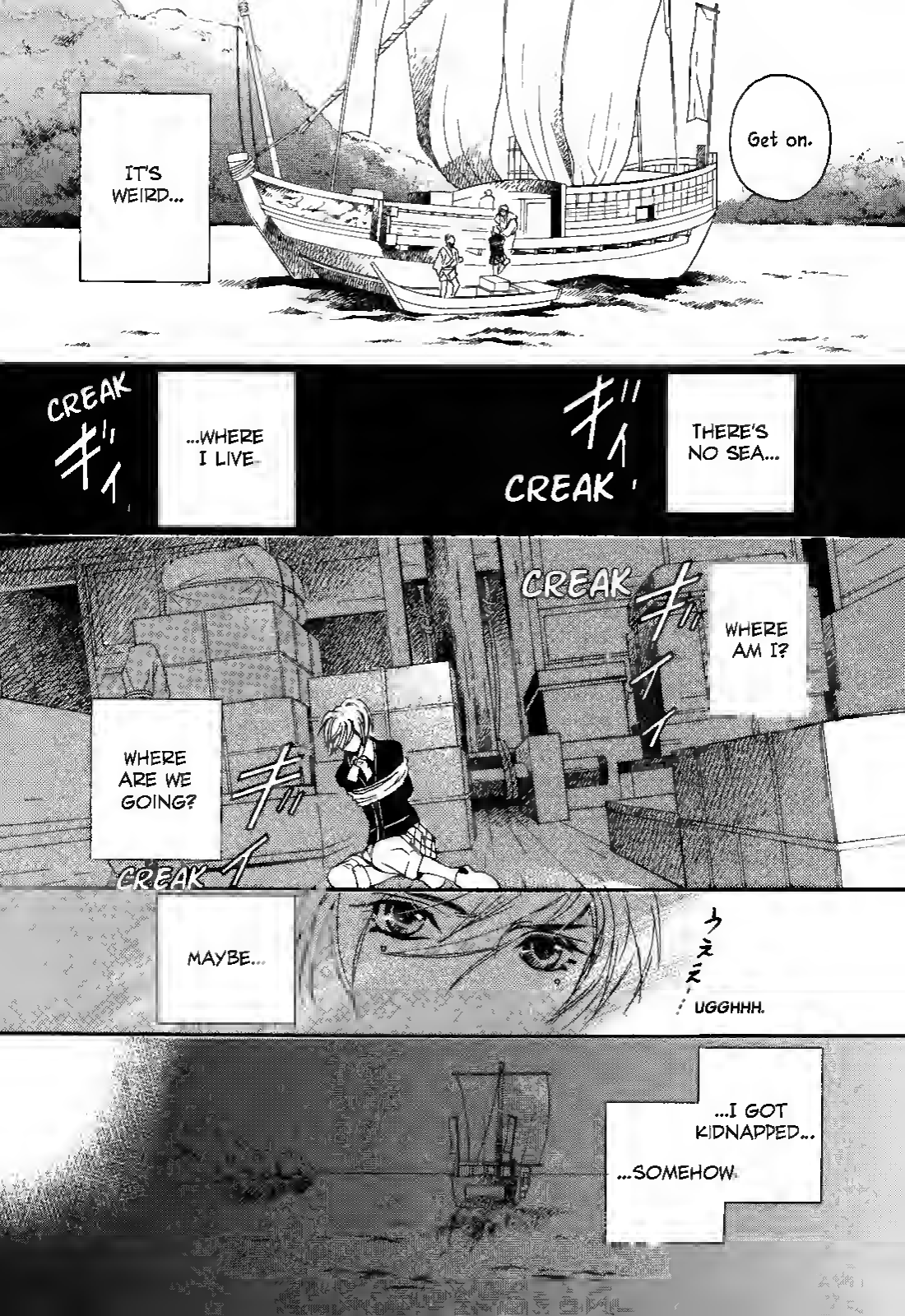
Whoa!
It's a guy!
Get a rope!
He's strong!
GRIND
GRIND
SWOOSH
!!
LIFT
What strange clothing...
A foreigner?

WHAM
Bastard!
BAM
CRACKLE
Can we use 'im?
Nah...
He's too weak.
Maybe as a prostitute.
Tie 'im up.
You've got a pretty face.
Were you some noble's servant?

GLOOM
WHAT THE HELL...?!
IS THIS SOME SORT OF NIGHTMARE?
WAHH
We got women!
Young ones are 200 mon each.
WAIL
Buy men as slaves!
200 mon each!
WAHH
MAYBE...
...I FELL ON THE STONE STEPS.
I MUST'VE HIT MY HEAD AND DIED.
WAIL
This one needs a bit o' rearin'...
But, she's a girl so 60 mon!
WAIL
Old, but still good for breeding!
WAIL
SQUEEZE
A hundred mon!

Hmm.
PULL AWAY
ぱっ
That one's 500 mon.
GRAB
ぐいっ
That's fer the old ones.
Wasn't it 200 mon each?
Not a single blemish.
Look at his pale skin.
This guy's some noble's servant.

Thanks fer buyin'!
Get on.
キィコ
CREAK
Another castle fell yesterday...
...which meant another slave auction.
キィコ
CREAK
He's a pretty one.
A good purchase.
キィコ CREAK


IT'S WEIRD...
Get on.
CREAK
キィ
...WHERE I LIVE
キィ
CREAK
THERE'S NO SEA...
CREAK
キィ
WHERE AM I?
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
キィ
CREAK
イ
MAYBE...
うぇぇ
UGGHHH.
...I GOT KIDNAPPED...
...SOMEHOW.

Get off.
SHA-SHAA
Wait here.
Don't even try to escape.
I COULDN'T EVEN IF I WANTED TO...
I feel sick...
DIZZY
Excuse me.
Where... ...are we?
Kishu...?
WAS THERE EVER... ...SUCH A PLACE?
The Saika base in Kishu.

While buying gunpowder in Satsuma...
Just like...
...Manmi Senchiyo.
Impossible!
They look exactly alike!
...I stopped by Bishu.
I found him at a slave auction.
IT FEELS KINDA...
...LIKE DEJA VU.
OH...
...THIS FEELING.
IT'S LIKE I'M IN SOME HISTORICAL DRAMA.
I saw him up close.
The one who led the cavalry in Arioka...
They *indeed* look alike!
OH, YEAH...
SO, I MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN JAPAN.
THEIR APPEARANCE AND LANGUAGE ARE SIMILAR.
We can use him.
A spitting image.

COLLAPSE
I SHOULD HAVE...
...PAID MORE ATTENTION DURING THE OLYMPIC OPENING
KISHU? SAIKA BASE?
DAMMIT.
BLINK
Have you awoken?
I'm boiling water now.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
COUGH
Sm-
Smoke!
COUGH

SPRING!!!
You fainted from sea-sickness.
Please bathe and put on that kimono.
DASH
タ!! タ!!

PANT
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
CLIMB
BAM

GRAB
ガシッ
ドサッ
SLUMP

Geez...
You're a fast one, brat.
SWING
TOSS

I didn't even use my full strength.
Ah!
SLAM
I hope there are no injuries.
Hm?

CLENCH
What?!
You're a girl?
!!
Listen up...
You were bought by the Saika clan.
Even if you escape...
...no outsiders ever survive.
You'll be captured and sold again.
Forced into slavery.
CRACKLE

SHUDDER
No way...
Since you're a girl...
..you'll be raped and used for breeding.
However, if you work for us...
...Kishu's Saika clan will protect you.
..
Work for you?
The reason I bought you...
...was because you resembled someone.
A page who died in a war two years ago.
We plan to use you...
...to gather information.
You are to get close to that page's lord.
Then inform us of his movements.
Of course...
We can also use you as a woman.

Seduce him and gather information.
Concubine?
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
In that case, you will act...
...as his concubine.
A CALL GIRL?!
エーッ!
Huh?!
Call girl?
Why is it always that?!
!?
To serve as a man...
...or as a woman.
The choice is yours.
You will become his lover.
Entrap him with your body.
Bear his child.
Are those the only choices?
Who is this guy?
He will be forty-eight next year.
A frightening and powerful man.

Azuchi's Oda Nobunaga.
You should recognize that name.
SHAKE ふ…ん
Forty-eight?! My dad's age?!
No way! Impossible!
SHAKE ふ…ん
SHAKE ふ…ん
What nonsense is that?
...
...does not sing...
...kill it.
If the cuckoo...
It's Tora.
Tora Takei.
Hmm.
What is your name?
Can I give you my answer tomorrow?
I have a headache.

I am Muni.
This is my wife, Kira.
All right, Tora.
I will give you until tomorrow.
Tora, huh?
That is a good name.
You must be hungry.
Eat before you rest.
It's porridge.
It will help with the fatigue.
Call for me if you need anything.
Oh, then...
...where's the nearest convenience store?
Con-venience store?
A place that sells lots of items...
Like shampoo or toothbrushes ...
Or, um. Pads...

Your clothes...
I have never seen such before.
They look foreign.
Never mind...
Good-night.
?
?
がっくり
SLUMP
You must have come from far away.
You poor thing.
Don't think about anything and sleep well.
...but, don't mind his words.
Muni said you had until tomorrow...
RUSTLE
...
It's itchy...

RUSTLE
Where's my bag?
I had itching cream in there.
RUSTLE
Whoa!
Something bit me.
SCRATCH
So itchy...
SCRATCH
Really itchy.
SCRATCH
Not even any underwear.
No itching cream...
No toothbrush. No shampoo.
What about pads?
My period's coming soon.
DRIP
Oh, my...
Uggnn.
Wahhh.
No...
This can't be happening.

Whoa!
Y-
GRAB
Y-
Y-
Y-
Y-
Y-
Y-
I did warn you to be careful.
Take me back home!!
You!! Take me back! Please!!
That's impossible.
Take you home?

Why-yyyy?!
Well, I can tell you the way.
But, can you go alone?
Y-Yes! I can go by myself!
Then... ...here!
Revised Edition
Japanese History
日本史
Ta-dah! Japanese history!
A textbook?!
Let's see...
Read this part.
FLIP
FLIP
In 1580 (Tensho 8), Nobunaga...
...forced Ishiyama (Osaka) Hongan-ji to surrender.

A thorough explanation would take too long.
Hmm.
?
Huh?
That was in March. Now it's September.
That's right.
At historical sites, sometimes a strange path...
... opens.
So, people get lost and cross over.
That time...
...you took the wrong path.
Remember the castle passageway?
You...
...time slipped!
In other words...
Here... Read this.
Time slipped?
Then... ...how do I get home?

What?
You took a wrong path and ended up *here*.
So, why not create another one?
That incident ...
Can you change it?
Year 1582 (Tensho 10).
He was betrayed by his retainer, Akechi Mitsuhide, at Honno-ji and committed suicide. *The Honno-ji Incident.*
That is your way home.
Make it so Nobunaga doesn't die at Honno-ji.
June 2, 1582.
Me?!
Are you telling me...
...to change the course of history?

Oh! I almost forgot.
Why not?
You can't go home otherwise.
Is it OK...
...to do that?
A talisman! ♡
Here!
A place where it won't come off or be seen.
Please stick this somewhere on your body.
Isn't this a fake tattoo?
Huh?

What?!
Then, I'm off!
Find your own way back, OK?
And when that happens...
...you can never return home.
If it comes off...
...you'll get lost among the people here.
Wa-
Wait a sec!
You can...
...cross over at any time, right?
Get something for me at the convenience store!
Con-venience store?
What do you want?
Arrgh!
PADS
生理用品
UNDERWEAR
下着
CHUCKLE
I... I can't say it!

WARP
I'll go to the convenience store...
...so you go change history, OK? ♡
POOF
Hey, wait!
Huh?
If the cuckoo...
...does not sing...
...kill it.
YOU ARE TO GET CLOSE TO THAT PAGE'S LORD.
THEN INFORM US OF HIS MOVEMENTS.
Oda Nobunaga.
The Incident at Honno-ji.
Seriously?
JAPANESE HISTORY

HUFF
HUFF
Aghhhh!
...OR AS A WOMAN.
TO SERVE AS A MAN...
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.
I have decided.
I will serve as a man!!
Approaching Nobunaga as a woman...
...will be much easier.
I prefer this way.
Thanks.
Yes.
Are you prepared?

IN THIS PLACE...
...WOMEN ARE DEFENSE-LESS.
Yes!
I will train you like one.
Then, you are a man from this day forth.
I MUST PROTECT MYSELF.
I WILL DEFINITELY RETURN...
...AS A VIRGIN!
LET'S DO THIS!
よっしゃ！

That guy, Manmi Senchiyo...
Was he very close to Nobunaga?
Your target is the pages and secretaries...
...that accompany the elite mounted samurai.
If you can get into their ranks...
...you can get closer to him.
CLOP
Yikes!
CLOP
The ones around Nobunaga...
...are his elite guards and attendants.
He was his most beloved page.
He received a house right next to Azuchi Castle's Kurogane Gate.
The closest.
ヒヒーン
SMACK
As of now...
...only your face resembles him.

NEIGHHHHH
ヒヒヒ
WAHH
キャー
WHUMP
ドド
You can't ride or shoot a bow.
That is unacceptable for a fifteen-year-old samurai.
Three months.
In three months...
...I'll train you to be on the same level!
Can you read and write?
If it's in Japanese...
Then, try reading this.

Wha-?!
It's a letter from Nobunaga...
With his official seal, *Tenka Fubu*.
There's no way I can read...
...something like that.
What?
So you're illiterate.
Huh?
He said you can't read or write.
Nora Takei
Age 15, Leo, Type
Hobbies: Watching DVD
Dislikes: Studying
Favorite foods: Cheesecake
What is this?
I can so read and write!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
That's mean!!

My profile.
My, how interesting!
It's like an encoded message!
Please teach me this, Miss Tora.
In exchange, I'll teach you to read and write basic Japanese.
UMM...
What's wrong?
I will prepare lunch.
I'm not illiterate!
If you are illiterate...
...civil officials and secretaries are out.
That leaves archers or cavalrymen.
A low-ranking samurai.
HARD
HARD
SALTY
Nothing ...
It's just...
IT'S ALL HARD OR SALTY...
I CAN'T EAT THAT.
IT FEELS LIKE I'M ON A DIET.
Ahh...
I really want to eat cheesecake.
Fish tastes better when sweetened.

STUFF
STUFF
Push them all the way in.
The ball and gunpowder go in through the nozzle.
Clamp the fuse.
Take aim...
Open the lid and pull the trigger.
Pour in the gunpowder.
Close the matchlock.
Hold the fuse between your fingers.
Open the matchlock.
CLICK
POW

STUFF
STUFF
Make sure you push the ball.
STUFF
Here. Try shooting it.
THRUST
THROB
THROB
My.. My ears...
You can get his attention by excelling at shooting.
Nobunaga favors guns.
Clamp the fuse.
Close the matchlock.
UMM.
Open the matchlock.
Put in the gunpowder.
Yes.
...it will explode in your hands.
If you mistake the order...
Fire!
CLICK
Open the matchlock.

WHUMP
RECOIL
WHOAA!
THROB
THROB
THROB
To withstand the recoil...
...use your arms and body.
Wear armor, put strength in your waist and shoot.
You must do that.
Do you think it will be easy to become his page?

He has been in over a hundred wars.
One hundred and twenty, in thirty years.
To serve under him...
...you must be able to fight.
Let's eat.
FIGHT...
STIR
もそ
STIR
I GUESS MEN HAVE TO FIGHT.
IT IS THE WARRING STATES PERIOD.
TRYING THEIR BEST NOT TO DIE...
...
IF I GAIN HIS FAVOR...
STIR
もそ
STIR
...WILL I STILL HAVE TO DO IT?
...

STAGGER
ふらふら
I'm full. Thanks...
Thank you for the food!
Would you like more?
CHOMP
ちがう
Better not think about it!!
No!!
CHOMP
ちがう
ちがう
CHOMP
Huh? I'm getting dizzy again...
Miss Tora...
Have you already had your moon cycle?
No...
Not yet.
I see...
It's a bit late this month.
Oh!!
Moon cycle?
ほのぼの
ほのぼの

I will tell you a way to hide it well.
Even if you look and act like a boy...
...there is still that.
Please teach me!!
うぅす!!
YES!!
So that you can be amongst men...
...without having to worry about that.
FROM NOW ON, I AM A BOY!!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I HAVE TO!
I MUST DO MY BEST!
I WILL GO OUT TO THE BATTLEFIELD.
SO I MUST GET STRONGER SO I DON'T DIE!

THWACK
Look at the target hanging on that tree...
...a hundred meters away.
There are many in the Saika clan...
...who can hit that easily.
That is why the Saika Cavalry Militia...
...has been able to fight many wars.
Shoot it.
CLICK
POW

Lower your aim little-by-little...
...and improve your accuracy.
Yes!
HAPPY
快...感
Nice shot.
You have become useful.
ヒュン
BAM
I will also train you how to use the new guns I made.
After the harquebus...
...is the cannon.
Have you...
...gotten thinner?
GRAB
Two new models.
Yes!

That's good, then.
I just got more toned!
This is a dangerous period for you.
Don't push yourself too hard.
Put out the fuse.
Yes!
Don't shoot without my supervision.
WHOA
Huh?
I'm getting dizzy again...
I'll put it out with water.
WAVE
I don't want to cause a fire.
The fire won't die out.

!!
TACKLE
トゥサッ
Dammit!
Again?!
It's too far.
PULL
ピィィ
OK...
Just relax...
STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
Even if I miss...
...the noise should scare him off.

FLAP
FLAP
POW
ハアー
はあ
SHOCK
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
The...
The match-lock...
I put the fuse in while it was open...
What have you done?!

I won't teach you anymore!
You will learn to be a prostitute!
WHACK
WHACK
Why didn't you listen?!
Anything, but that!
GRAB
No!
WHACK
Let go!
Muni!

UGHH
Miss Tora?
...what on earth made you do it?
But, to use a used fuse like that...
He showed no mercy upon you...
You poor thing.
Miss Tora...
Unnn-
Ughhh-
Uggggh...
Ughhhh...
...but I couldn't do anything!
There was a helpless woman...
I couldn't do anything.
D-Damn it...
She was defenseless!
There was no one else to help her!
But, all I did was act like some coward!
She was raped right before my eyes.

Damn it!
I'll get him next time!
I've had enough! I wanna go home!!
I'm gonna go home and stuff myself with New York Cheesecake!
Miss Tora...
WAIL

You know, even a princess...
...must marry into a faraway castle.
Once she is able, she will bear children.
Should the castle fall, she will be captured...
...or killed...
...or sold into slavery.
If saved, she will only be taken by another man.
Then used as a tool for breeding.

Women have their own strength.
No matter what happens...
...we have the strength to withstand it.
I understand your choice in becoming a man...
...but, don't push yourself.
As women...
...that is the only way for us to live.
I can teach you if you'd like.
Thank you...
...but, I'm fine.
I have to protect a man...
...who's been in 120 battles.
...
I see...

You cannot become strong otherwise.
For now, you must eat.
That's true.
Though it's easier said than done.
...but if you catch me a bird, I can bake it for you.
I don't know what a New York Cheesecake is...
I'm really sorry.
ニッポンの
BOW
I won't do it again...
...so please keep teaching me.
カ゛ーン
CLANK
What is it?
カ゛ーン
CLANK
カ゛ーン
CLANK

To get close to Nobunaga...
...I must get stronger.
I'll do anything.
No, I won't...
...but, I will shoot again.
BAM
Then, you must never...
...recklessly shoot like that again.
CLANK
I won't make another mistake.
I'll practice until I get it right.
HMPH
You're a stubborn one.
Look...

Just one...
...can destroy your face or hands.
It is different from a bow, spear or sword.
This was the result of a *mistake*.
I don't know what you are after...
...but, if you are serious about learning...
...then you cannot back out halfway.
Do you understand?
Yes!
The target's distance will increase by a meter.
OK!

I AM CONSTANTLY MOVING MY BODY.
THE CONSTANT MOTION IS EXHILARATING ...
...SO, I KEEP GOING.
CLOSE COMBAT.
GRAPPLING.
I'VE NOW MASTERED THEM.
THANKS, DAD... BRO...
Look, Kira!
I caught a bird!
ANCIENT BUDO IS FINALLY USEFUL.

SMIRK
So, we are going to hunt it.
There appears to be a falcon nearby.
Long-range shooting?
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
Tomorrow...
...we will practice long-range shooting.
It should be around here.
Keep a distance of fifty meters.
Find a location where the target is visible.
Hide the horses.
We don't want to get too close to it.

I'll go check the forest.
No. Stay here.
BOING
ピョコ
Oh! A rabbit!
RUSTLE
ガサ
Whoa!
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
Hey...
...Muni!
Oh, no.
Go away!

WHAT IF HE HAS RABIES?!
WOOF
THIS DOG IS DEFINITELY NOT VACCINATED!
WOOF
I'M GONNA GET BIT!
WOOF
YELP
THWAK
Get out of here!
WHINE
WHINE

Excuse me, Sir.
I... I apologize.
We lost our way, and...
Are you hurt?

This territory belongs to Lord Oda Nobunaga.
Leave at once!
カ
ﾊﾞｲ
TAP
Yes, Sir.
We shall take our leave.
Did he see your face?
I'm not sure.
He chased away the dog.

A kind page.
If it were a fellow hunter...
...it would not be unusual.
But, that was...
...Mori Ran Naritoshi.
Mori Ran?
Mori Ranmaru.
Among Nobunaga's pages...
...he is currently the most favored.

It has begun.
Tora...
Come here...
What has?
They will chase out a falcon...
...and use a trained hawk to catch it.

They're also covered in dirt.
It just looks like they're searching for something.
Is that really fun?
I thought Nobunaga's hobbies would be more interesting.
The one in the hat.
Nobunaga is here.
TH-THUMP
Huh?

Oh...
What a fine hawk.
Even its wings are beautiful.
SNIFF
SNIFF
CLICK
It's coming.
FLAP
FLAP

SWOOOOSHHHH
FLAP
POW

DASH
DASH
DASH
BLOCKS
Tora!
Let's go!!
...SO COOL!
THAT WAS...

STOMP
ドッ
STOMP
ドッ
STOMP
Quickly!
ドッ
STOMP
ドッ
ドッ
STOMP

Don't look back!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
CLICK
POW

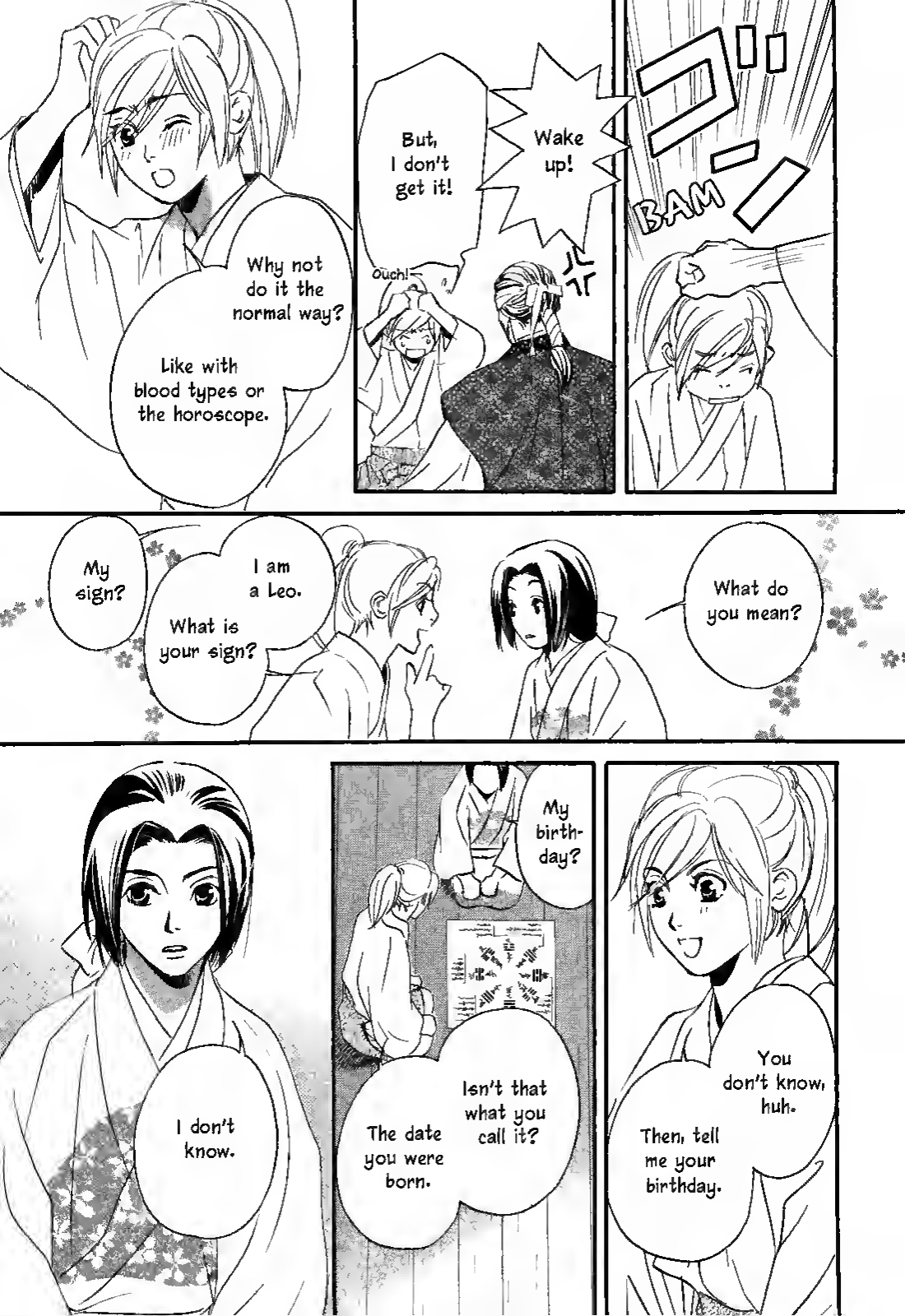
Hori!!
ヒヒーン
NEIGHHHH
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
ムー
ムー
ムー
...his presence was unmistakable.
A man with an intimidating aura.
Though his face was hidden...

Two of Nobunaga's most trusted elite guards.
...Hori Hidemasa and Hasegawa Hidekazu.
The ones who chased after us were...
Pages...
...rushed to Nobunaga's side were his pages.
The ones who...
Manmi was the former page of Commander Maeda Toshiie.
He died later in battle.
Hori and Hosokawa were also former pages.
Nobunaga personally took charge of them himself.
So, they hold an important position.
During war, they stay in the stronghold.
During peace, they stay in the castle.
Remaining close to his side and protecting him when needed.
Strong, intelligent and beautiful.

Mori Ranmaru, Takahashi Toramatsu, and Ogura Matsuju.
Those three are currently...
...Nobunaga's head pages.
I...
I want to be one, too!
One of the head pages!
What?
Joining them would be the best way!
Isn't it my job to infiltrate and investigate?
That's true, but...
...it's impossible for you.
Why?
A page cannot be illiterate.
You must be able to take notes on his letters...
...and read them when requested.
I SAID I WASN'T ILLITERATE!

I cannot teach you court etiquette.
I won't know unless I try.
I bought you...
...thinking you were a page.
Deliver messages to the battlefield...
...and receive visiting guests.
Can you do all that?
I'm not illiterate!
I didn't expect you to be illiterate.
I thought we could use one that resembled Manmi.
Hmph.
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
It's a good way to protect Nobunaga.
...it is impossible.
Even if you resemble Manmi Senchiyo...
But, that is not their sole purpose.
The pages are all indeed beautiful.

For now...
...memorize this.
Hmm.
His elite guard, Takebe Ito, is illiterate.
But, were there ones inside as well?
Protect him?
I see...
You will act as a fortune-teller in Azuchi.
The eight divination signs.
What's this?
Southeast, North, Northeast, Southwest...
These are the signs of divination.
DROOP
As a fortune-teller?
This is Northwest.
Then, West and South...
East...
Fortune-teller?
It is a quick way to meet Nobunaga.


Why not do it the normal way?
Like with blood types or the horoscope.
But, I don't get it!
Wake up!
Ouch!
BAM
What do you mean?
I am a Leo.
What is your sign?
My sign?
My birth-day?
Isn't that what you call it?
The date you were born.
You don't know, huh.
Then, tell me your birthday.
I don't know.

I don't know either.
I think it was when a nightingale sang.
You don't know?!
How about you, Muni?!
No way!
You don't know your own birthdays?
Then, how about your blood type?
You don't know that either, huh.
HMM
I can't do any animal fortune-telling...
...without your birthdays.
Oh!
Then, how about this?
You and your friend want to eat lunch at the top of a mountain...
While on your way, you encounter a huge rock.

Looking at this rock...
...which would you say?
A. Let's climb over it since we came all this way!
B. Let's try moving the rock!
C. Let's just eat here!
So?
Which is it?!
Well, I suppose, climb over it.
Since we came all that way.
OK. Type A.
And you, Kira?
Let's just eat here.
I think...
Ta-dah!
With this, I can read your personalities!

The ones who choose A are hot-tempered, but forgetful.
It's scary when they explode, but they tend not to hold grudges.
Is that correct?
I suppose so...
They are thought to be gentle, but...
...in actuality, they rage when alone.
The ones who choose C rarely get angry.
Is that correct?
Perhaps...
I would remember the next day and get angry...
...with what Muni said.
So it's true?!
This is interesting, Miss Tora.
What do you call it?
It's called a personality test.
It was popular during middle school.

Really?
What kinds?!
There's a lot more!
Tora. Kira.
Make preparations.
Interesting...
What a strange girl.
...what she will say.
It is hard to predict...
We will head to Azuchi.
Now is a good time.
That is Mount Kanno-ji.

Nobunaga destroyed Sakaki Rokkaku's castle that was there.
Now it is used to protect Azuchi Castle.
That riverbank...
Once we cross it...
...we will be in Nobunaga's peaceful paradise...
...Azuchi.

How reckless.
Azuchi Castle is still under construction.
CLATTER
CLATTER
Move! Clear the way!
...are still young and incomplete.
The castle and its town...
They have the freedom to start anew.
According to those laws...
...can become a citizen of this city.
...anyone, no matter their origin...
... Nobunaga created countless laws.
To gather people to this town...

If we live here...
...we become Azuchi citizens.
Take us for example...
Where we come from or who we are, does not matter.
What's on your mind?
You look happy, Miss Tora.
CAW
CAW
Wow!
There are so many crows.
Nobunaga seems like a good person!
Yeah!
I feel better now.

ヒュ〃〃
SWOOSH
Look over there.
カ〃〃ア!
CAW
FLAP
GRAB
CAW
FLAP
FLAP
ヒュ〃〃
CAW
CAW
FLAP

Captives from Kaga's Ikko Sect.
There are a total of eighteen.
No, nineteen heads in all.
That's ...
That's horrible.
Yes, it is.
In war, the winner takes the heads...
...as the losers lose theirs.
The enemies' heads are severed and put on a stake.
It doesn't matter if they are children.
Nobunaga shows no mercy...
...to anyone who opposes him.
Disguising yourself as a man...
...and approaching him for information. You are one of those people.

...may make you into one of them.
The slightest mistake...
No way!
I'll be a man!
Do you wish to be a concubine instead?
GASP
Are you afraid?
Then, let's start our plan.
I see...
May I have your attention, please?!
Citizens of Azuchi!

Mr. Samurai over there!
Are you perhaps troubled by something?
Miracle Tora!
I am a fortune-teller who can read your hearts!
Hmm.
I see...
What I can become.
That's right.
I wonder why I'm here.
Is it extremely large, or is it normal size?
An egg?
How big do you think the egg is?
Please picture this...
There is an egg here.

Hmm.
Soon, I guess.
I see...
Now, how long will it take for that egg to hatch?
Will it be long, or will it be soon?
Hmm. It's large.
LARGE
I see...
Last question.
What will hatch from the egg?
A chick?
Or money?
A monster?
Please look.
LARGE
SOON
This is your future diagram.
I see!
OK. A horse...
A great horse.
HMPH
What's this?
I don't care what hatches from it.

The great horse means...
LARGE
大
SOON
すぐ
うま
HORSE
You have the potential to become larger than life.
Moreover, it will happen soon.
Future diagram?
That's right!
お!
すOOOFHHH
...you will become a great mounted military commander!
If you purchase this...
...your future will be as predicted!
I will put your diagram...
...in this fortune pouch.
Really?!
Yes!
Also, here...

How much?!
That depends on you! ♡
Consider it a donation...
...though a bigger donation may be better.
Then, 15 mon!
BAM
Thank you very much!
CHATTER
What's this? It looks interesting!
I'm next!
CHATTER
Please tell my fortune!
I don't know why...
...but it seems to be a hit.
The fortune pouches have run out.
I need to make more.
This can help fund our military expenses.
I just say what they want to hear...
...but they thank me so seriously
Everyone seems so honest

Is it all right?
Accepting their money...?
It's fine.
Keep at it.
The shadier, the better.
At this rate, it should reach them in a few days.
?
A suspicious man profiting from strange fortunes.
CROWD
わい
CROWD
わい
CROWD
わい
Thank you!
Thank you so much!
OOOOHHHH
お
Yes, yes...
That's enough, granny...
お
お
お
I can't accept so much!
STING
GUILT
STING
GUILT
STING
Please, use it for yourself.
OK?
AAAHHH
お

All right...
Next customer ...
SIGH
はー
Move.
I heard there was an interesting fortune-teller...
Would that be you?

WHOA!
Per-
Perhaps...
Then, please tell our fortunes.
Let's see...
Something for the three of you...
SMILE
Anything.
Of course!
What would you like to know?
Then, using the position of the moon and sea...
...I will predict your heart's innermost desires!
Please choose a picture that you like.

You, too.
Then, I'll choose this one.
I'll choose this one.
First, the one who chose this.
I see...
You are someone who always puts others...
...before your own interests, correct?
Sir Matsuju...
Ah, I see...
Ogura Matsuju.

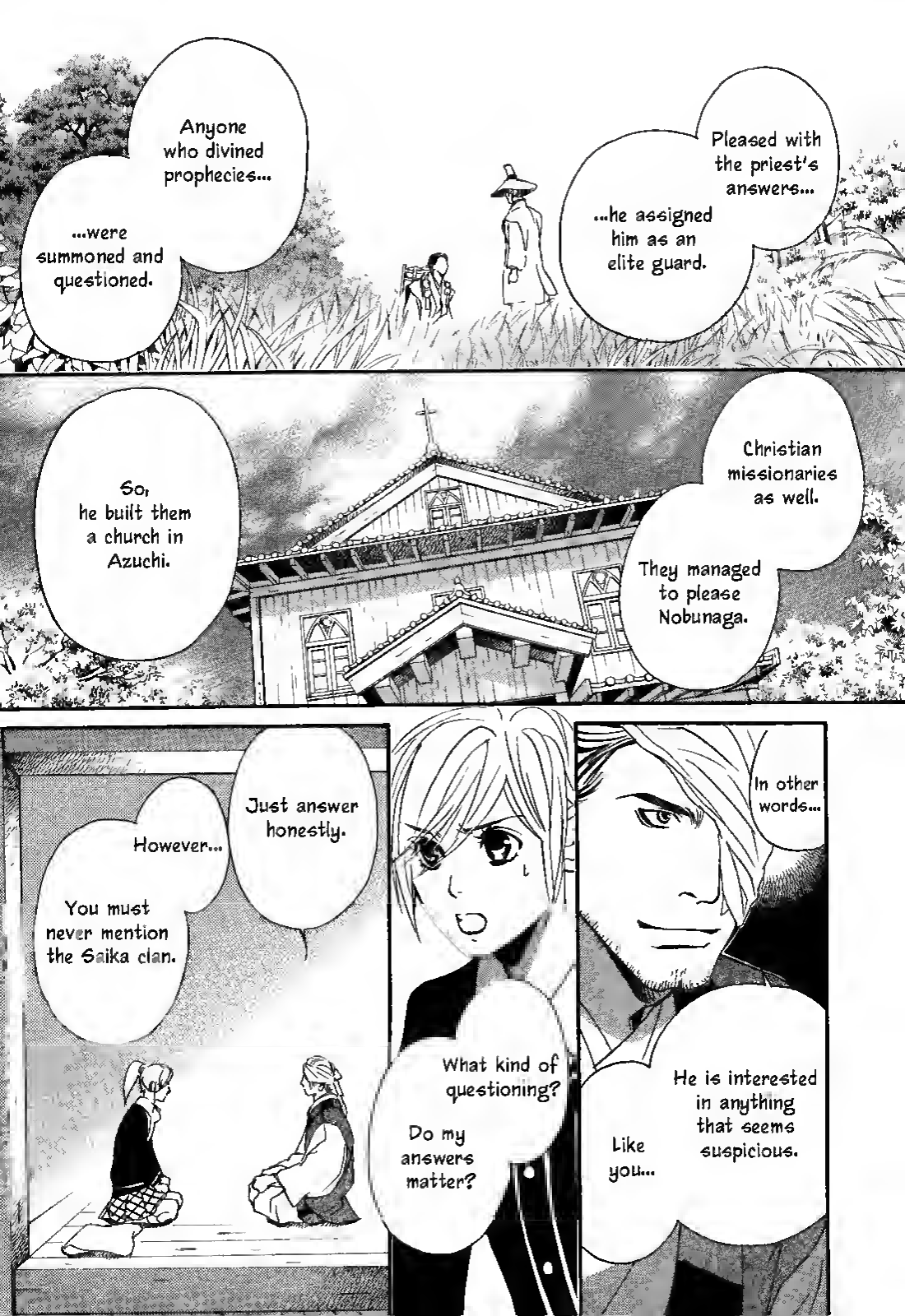
You may want to try thinking of yourself...
What you like...
What you want to do.
Who you are...
Takahashi Toramatsu.
Is that true?
I'm surprised.
I never told anyone about that.
Interesting ...
What about me?
Sir Toramatsu ...
What ...?
What is it?
PFFT

This psychological test was taken from the book, The Magical Psychology Test. Nakajima Majika/Nagaoka Shoten Publishing.

There is a wound in your heart.
You wish...
...to heal someone.
No, it's not.
There is no such person. Nor have I ever had such desires.
Is that true?
We have come on Lord Nobunaga's order.
You are a suspicious fortune-teller.
Lord Nobunaga wishes to speak with you!
...come to the Deus Christian Church.
Tomorrow, at the hour of the snake...

A Christian church at the hour of the snake.
Where is that?!
What time is the hour of the snake?!
The seminary below Azuchi Castle.
The...
...seminary?
Huh?
SZZTT
SZZTT
SZZTT
Never mind...
I'll take you there before it's time.
What should I do?!
Should I dress up or something?!
I'm going to meet Nobunaga!!
Those clothes are fine...
They're strange and the color is nice.

You know...
This has been bothering me...
Saying, "The shadier, the better."
Are they saying that...
...I'm being questioned for suspicious behavior?
We should work on your speech.
Who cares about that?!
This is bad!
It's scary!
AGAINST
GREAT
DEMON
KING
While on a falcon hunt...
...Nobunaga called upon a mountain priest.
He then asked him a series of questions.


Anyone who divined prophecies...
...were summoned and questioned.
Pleased with the priest's answers...
...he assigned him as an elite guard.
So, he built them a church in Azuchi.
Christian missionaries as well.
They managed to please Nobunaga.
Just answer honestly.
However...
You must never mention the Saika clan.
What kind of questioning?
Do my answers matter?
In other words...
He is interested in anything that seems suspicious.
Like you...

Wary of our forces...
...he waged war on us.
The Saika clan took part in the Ishiyama Hongan-ji War.
We fought Nobunaga as an enemy.
However, the Tsuchihashi family remains against him.
That is why we secretly planned to send you inside.
Now, we appear to be on peaceful terms.
Some of us formed close ties with Nobunaga.
I got it!
I'll make sure not to be discovered.
Then, the rest does not matter.
If you are discovered...
...your head will be fed to the crows.
CHILL

Should Nobunaga wish to reward you...
...say that you only wish to serve him.
If things go well...
...you may be let into the elite forces.
Then... ...I'll be going now.
Miss Tora! Wait!
STAGGER
STAGGER
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
I made this from the leftover cloth from the fortune pouches.
Wear it as a protective charm.
Oh!
TIE
TIE
TIE
A bow tie!

...
Muni...
Is it all right not to tell her?
I'm leaving!
I feel a lot better now!
I felt lonely since I lost it!
Thanks, Kira!
...
It is better not to scare her.
Those who were deemed frauds...
...would suddenly disappear.
That girl is more interesting when she's honest.
Trying too hard may lead to mistakes.

Fortune-teller!
Oh.
Lord Nobunaga is waiting!
Hurry!
I have brought the fortune-teller.
はぁ
WHEEZE
Enter!
はぁ
WHEEZE
I CAME AT THE APPOINTED TIME!!
HUH?!
Eeep!
WHY IS HE MAKING IT SEEM LIKE I'M LATE?!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
Run!
Faster!
THUD
THUD
THUD

RATTLE
カラ
ン
Santa Maria...
...has been...
...expecting you.

?
Move forward!
Ran...
...let it be.
WAVE
WAVE
Huh?
Lower your head!
WAVE
WAVE
Closer!
Keep going until his hand stops!
Interesting ...
You wear a bow tie on your chest.
SLIDE

BLUE
RED
Da Vinci's "The Annunciation"
Frois.
Are these not Santa Maria's colors?
And a blue cloth...
...over a red kimono.
GLINT
Are you a man?
Or a woman?
RED?
BLUE
BLUE?
RED JERSEY
I am...
...a man!!
A man, is it?
!
Take this off.
Show me your face.

!!
What...?!
It is as if Sen has returned from the dead.
Where did you come from?
Tell me.

W-With this?
Yes.
Umm.
Do you know what this is?
...
The earth?
Oh!
Yes, around there!
Bizen.
Around Bichu Mimasaka?
This...
...is Japan, right?
Hokkaido is missing.
Around here.
Pin-
Pon!
SMIRK
That's right!
He is praising you in the Christian language.
What?

BALD XAVIER...
XAVIER...
What ?!
How would I know?!
Where did they come from?
AUGUSTINE
FROIS
Next question.
The Christian priests over there...
CURRENTLY ACCESSING MEMORIES OF...
...AND THE HARQUEBUS...
...TO TANEGASHIMA.
...HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES.
SATISESTONES!
FRANCISCO XAVIER...
THE ONE WHO INTRODUCED CHRISTIANITY....
TWIRL TWIRL
Umm.
Around...
...here!
think.
Por...
Portugal!!
Take that!

The sun rises from the east and sets in the west.
...
Next question...
Why is that?
Pin-
Pon!
THIS TIME IT'S SCIENCE?!
Umm.
That's because...
...the earth rotates from west to east!
CURRENTLY ACCESSING
MEMORIES OF
HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE.
Be...
Why does the solar and lunar eclipse occur?
Pin-
Pon!
Because the sun hides behind the moon and the moon hides behind the sun's shadow!

にっこり
SMILE
Pin-
Pon!
...
Aren't these test questions?
THIS SITUATION...
IT REMINDS ME OF...
...MY MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER!
Tetsu Sato
(Age 45)
Former band member.
Skilled karaoke songs:
All of BOØWY.
Come on!
Very good!
Thank you!
When firing questions, he always says, "Very good!"
IF THE CUCKOO DOES NOT SING...
...KILL IT.
So nostalgic.
THIS MAN DOESN'T FIT THAT IMAGE.
GREAT DEMON KING
大魔王
INSTEAD, HE'S...
...SUPER FRIENDLY!
カッコ
カワイイ
変
オヤジ
COOL AND CUTE, YET STRANGE UNCLE

HE HE
Pin-
Pon!
SHOCK
Hmm.
The earth moves, not the heavens.
The earth is round, not square.
Christian fortune-tellers were the first to discover that.
I heard you tell interesting fortunes.
As if you could read a person's heart.
If so, try reading mine.

Oh!
The psychology test?
All right, then...
Please think about...
...a person close to you that you hate.
Hmm.
Now, please tell me...
...what part of that person...
...do you hate?
Let's see...
TAP
TAP
That person's superficiality.
...gentle-mannered.
Always wearing a smile...
Showering flattery...
...yet, never revealing his true feelings.
I hate...
...his calculating smile.

Yes!!
The part of the person Lord Nobunaga hates...
Is none other than...
Well, then.
Have you read my heart?
Hmm.
Yes.
I see now...
...the part you hate about yourself!!
FLINCH
...if you listen closely...
...it is as if that person is speaking of themself.
When one speaks ill of another...
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM

DOOM
Those people, in turn, become hated.
...that person unconsciously projects it onto others.
When a person dislikes a part of themself...
DOOM
DOOM
To put it simply, you hate him because he resembles you.
DOOM
They remind you of the part of yourself that you hate.
DOOM
Did I get it right?
What do you think?!
TAP
I see...
So, as long as I act superficial...
...there will be those I hate for their superficiality.
Then, what should I do?
DOOM
DOOM
...and act as I truly feel?
Should I throw away that smile...
DOOM

Hmm.
I think it's a little different.
If you did that...
...you would just be oblivious.
Shall I do as you suggest?!
Answer me, Fortune-teller!
Oblivious?
A person unaware of their surroundings.
Then again...
I guess it's normal.
I might be like that, too.
空気読めてない
THE ONE UNAWARE OF THEIR SURROUNDINGS
IS YOU!
お前じゃ

If I got angry, it would ruin everything.
Even so, I still smile at them.
I hate those who act like your friends, but talk behind your back.
I hate that part of myself.
...as I smile and flatter them.
So, I hide my true feelings...
In terms of martial arts...
...when you attack from the shadows, you must take a shadow stance.
In other words, if your opponent attacks you with a smile.
You must counter with a smile of your own.
Like the Ptolemaic or Copernican Theory.
I think...
...you should reverse your way of thinking.
That is why...
Umm...

COME ON
カモーン
In order to win!
COME GET SOME!
If you think about it that way...
...opponents aside...
Ah! I'm back on track!
...you may come to like yourself more!
Don't you think so?
Hmm.
SMIRK
Not to flatter, but to attack.
That sounds like a tactic.
A tactic to win!
Pin-
Pon!

I don't need anything!
I only wish to serve you!
JUMP
Tell me what you desire.
I shall bestow you with a reward.
RELIEF
Ask for anything.
A horse, silk, foreign-goods...
How amusing.
That answer pleases me, Fortune-teller.
...Lord Nobunaga's page!!
I want to be...
Yet, you want me to accept a fortune-teller of unknown origins?
Yes!
My pages are military commanders or mounted samurai.
They are the sons of my valued retainers.
My page?

To be told that...
...with that face again.
What is your name?
I wish to...
...protect you at your side!
Tora Takei!
Tora, is it?
A good name.
Ran!
Yes, My Lord!
I shall leave him in your care!
He will stay at your residence...
...and begin work starting tomorrow!

If it is you...
...I will allow it.
However, I will not forgive betrayal.
Y-
Yes, My Lord!
Let us return to the castle!
Kira!

Miss Tora!
Thank goodness you are safe!
That's right!
So I have to hurry!
That person is scary!
The one out front...
...is Mori Ranmaru, isn't it?
Everything went great!
?
I...
I have to pack my things!
Yeah...
It was Lord Nobunaga's order.
What?!
With Mori Ran?!
I'll also be staying at his place...
...for the time being.

Are you certain?
You? A page?!
There's no time to talk!
I was told to hurry and prepare!
Page?!
Will you be staying in Azuchi?
How will we contact each other?
Oh, right!
It was all thanks to you, Muni!
I became Lord Nobunaga's page!!
With the cryptic letters Miss Tora taught me.
...I will write the address and tie it to its branch.
When our location is decided...
The tree that man is leaning on...
...I'm off!
Got it!
Then, Muni. Kira...

I don't know, but...
...she must have pleased him a lot.
What on earth happened?
What did she do?
A page?
But, is he the type to keep a suspicious fortune-teller beside him?
She certainly resembles Manmi Senchiyo.
Moreover, a page...
It's too close.
Things might...
...turn out bad.
Did he see something in her?
Something that he wants to possess?

If it is that girl.
That is true...
..but, I have a feeling it'll be all right.
There...
HUFF
There are so many steps...
HUFF
HIT
STUMBLE
Ow!

STARE
SIGH
Why...?
...is Buddha here?
Is that OK?
Hurry up!
Wow!
Such a beautiful view.

Geez...
He's really scary.
Demon!
ぶち
SNAP
ぶち
SNAP
Fortune-teller!
I am home.
Welcome home.
Welcome home, brother!
Have you brought a guest?

A new comrade!
He will be staying with us from today.
He is the Lord's new page.
I am Tora Takei.
I'll be in your care!
I am the fifth son. Mori Rikimaru.
I am the fourth son... Mori Bomaru.
Bo.
Take Sir Tora to the next room.
Yes!
Yes!
Riki.
Tell the servants to open one of the west rooms.
Then, I will go greet mother.

Huh?
CRASH
I will go bring you a towel.
Please, wait here.
Let's have a battle!
The loser becomes the servant!
Fortune-teller?
Has Lord Nobunaga once again...
...taken in a suspicious person?
It appears so.
And, he is to stay at our residence?

He lacks manners.
I fear I was ordered to train him in everything.
PALE
Oh, dear!
RATTLE
But...
But, that is...
What if that person makes a mistake?
Would it not become your responsibility?!
If you are forced to take responsibility...
DIZZY
...your brothers...
...and Nagayoshi in Kaneyama Castle will be affected.
Mother...
Aaahh.
My husband and eldest son died serving Lord Nobunaga.
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
My second serves Lord Nobutada.
And now my fourth has been taken from me.

I have served with complete devotion.
Yet, Lord Nobunaga...
...still wishes to torment the Mori Family. No, me...
Is it because I protested against the Ishiyama Hongan-ji War?!
WAIL
That is not true.
I am the most favored by the Lord.
So, this...
...has nothing to do with that.
Aaahh!
My Lord, Yoshinori!
I beg you! Please protect...
...this child and the Mori family!
CLANG
I will accept...
...any divine punishment!
Please, only punish me!
SOB
Mother...
...

Please don't worry, Mother.
I will work hard...
...so that I do not cause brother trouble.
So that I can protect our family.
I will not...
...tarnish the Mori name.
CLATTER
Huh?
No one's here.
SIGH
ARRGHHH
What is this racket?!
?!
Brother...

Who said we were doing sumo?
I won, so you are my servant. OK?
Not fair!
This isn't sumo!
GRUMPY
ふ"っす!!
I am the sixth son...
Mori Senmaru.
Sen, you-!
Darn it!
That is enough!
Get inside!
Remember that!
I am your boss, Tora!

His pretty face...
Here.
...has another wrinkle.
Brother has his hands full.
GRRRR
Sen!
You little troublemaker!
Yes, Sir.
This is my servant.
Tell him if you need anything.
Attendant!
You will be using this room.
INCREASED
SIGH
I wanted you to meet my mother...
...but her condition suddenly worsened.
A page's speech and conduct...
Watch and remember well.
You must learn the ins and outs of your position...
You will follow me while in the castle.

Looking down on those of higher status...
...or facing them directly...
You must never do it again.
There are many things you must know...
...but first this.
Yes!
When listening to your superior...
...you must tilt your head slightly.
As if looking six feet away.
When answering...
...you must look around here.
Staring directly at their face...
...or meeting their gaze, is discourteous.
Yes.
I understand, Ranmaru.
I mean, Sir. or Lord?

Then, I'll be...
...in your care.
Yes.
Ranmaru is fine.
I will also call you Tora.
It's getting worn out.
Oda Nobunaga.
Azuchi Castle.
In-depth Japanese History
日本史
I'll need it once I go back.
So, I'd better take care of it.

Ow!
PINCH
THINKING ABOUT IT...
...WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING.
Why did I come here?
I don't get it.
It's really...
...not a dream.
SO, LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.
I'll definitely go back!
OK!
Tomorrow's a new day!

Sir Tora.
Sir Tora.
Ugnnn.
Please wake up.
You must head to the castle.
Wha-?
DAZED
Stop joking.
It's still dark outside.
Breakfast is being prepared.
Hurry!
I don't need breakfast.
Let me sleep a little more...
ROLL
ROLL
Please wake up.
I will be reprimanded.
Fifteen more minutes...
No, five more minutes...
YANK

RUN
Wake up!
HUUHHH ?!
RUN
RUN
Hurry!
IT'S STILL DARK OUTSIDE!
RUN
RUN
IT'S NOT EVEN MORNING YET!
The lord rises at eight a.m.
He sometimes gives orders before his breakfast.
PANT
PANT
So, we must always be ready.
You must never oversleep like today again.

SHWIPP
You have kept them waiting...
Even those off duty...
...have gathered here to greet you.
RATTLE
I'm sorry

BOW
From today onward...
...we will all work together.
Meet the Lord's pages.
AN IDOL GROUP?!
Sir Takei Tora.
He will start working here today.
WOW
I'll...
I'll be in your care!

I am Ogawa Aihei.
I am Aoki Tsuru.
I am Uozumi Shoshichi.
I am Kano Matakuro.
I am Takeda Kitaro.
Kashiwabara Kamamaru!
Kashiwabara Nabemaru.
TWINS

SOFUE
TANEDA HISASHI
OCHIAI KOHACHIRO
SUGAYA
FIRST-CLASS PRETTY BOYS!
I can't remember all this!
OH MY GOD!
PRETTY
PRETTY
PRETTY
PRETTY
The Lord has risen.
Those in charge of breakfast, bathing...
...and grooming. Hurry to the west wing!
DASH
DASH
Yes!
Hey there!

Who was Manmi Senchiyo?
What a surprise.
When you turned, I thought you were Manmi.
Oh!
Well...
When Ranmaru and I first started here...
...Sir Manmi was still a page.
He taught us many things.
Later, he was promoted to elite guard.
But when he led the cavalry into his first battle...
...he lost his life.

He was summoned...
...before the Lord's breakfast...
Tora!
Hurry!
The Lord wishes to see you!
Yes!
If he were still alive...
...he would have be the Lord's right-hand man.
The Lord must have been...
...looking forward to seeing him as a page.
RATTLE
You may enter.
Yes, My Lord.

Pin-
Pon!
Yes, My Lord.
すすす
SLIDE
Tora.
Come closer.
LOOK SIX FEET AWAY AT AN ANGLE
Umm
That appear-ance...
It suits you well.
CLANCE
チラ
Yes...
Show me your face.
Thank you, My Lord.
目線はおなか
FOCUS ON THE STOMACH

PRECISE
きっちり
Yes, My Lord.
Work well.
REACH
TOOTHPICK
カタン
CLATTER
A letter from Kishu Muro-gun's Sir Horiuchi Shinjiro.
Yes, My Lord.
Read it.

CLOSE
パタン
TOILET
Amazing!
READING IT UPSIDE-DOWN.
SLIDE
スッ
HAND TOWEL
ムズムズ
AH-CHOO
TISSUE
SLIDE

THWACK
Somehow...
...just watching makes me tired.
くったり
SLUMP
What's wrong?
How do they know?
It's as if they have psychic abilities.
Everyone is amazing.
Moving before the Lord says anything.
They know by...
...constantly watching his expressions.

Then, I can't be oblivious.
Yes.
You must constantly be on guard.
To constantly be aware of his needs...
...we must develop our senses.
What he wants to say...
What he desires...
We search for signs.
This was what you wished for.
If you do not wish to be punished for a mistake...
...you must be able to read your surroundings.
Yes, My Lord.
Tora's first order...
...is to be my bath companion.
Ran.

Take care not to let any water...
...fall on the Lord's head.
First, clean the roof with this brush.
Understood.
Bath companion?
Tora.
Amuse me with another fortune.
...MEANS HELPING HIM KILL TIME IN THE SAUNA?
I don't like this situation...
BATH COMPANION ...

If you could only bring one animal to a deserted island...
...which would you bring?
Do I look at his eyes...?
...or his stomach?
A. Cow.
B. Horse.
C. Tiger.
D. Monkey.
Let's see...
Umm.
Pride is...
...self-respect.
To be triumphant.
I see...
What you value most in life...
...is pride.
Pride?
SMIRK
C.
Tiger.
What a boorish answer...
I even chose the tiger.
DAZE
I'm sorry.
Ah...
Did I miss something?
It's hot...

You will attend to my needs tonight.
Come to my room after cleaning yourself.
Yes, My Lord.
I'll ask Ranmaru about this later...
Ran.
Have him cleaned up!
Yes, My Lord.
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
Whoa... I'm soaked in sweat.
I'll catch a cold like this.
Tora.
You may bathe in the bathhouse.
Hurry.

SPLOOOOSHH
Yay! Lucky!
A bedtime bath! ♡
wrong!
What the-?!
Isn't this a stone?!
To scrub with a soap stone...
How cool!
Ahh...
SCRUB
SCRUB
SCRUB
Tora.
R- RATTLE
Ranmaru?!
SPLASH
W-W-Wait a min-!
Change into this silk robe.
Undergarments are unnecessary.

The Lord will rest in the inner chambers tonight.
This...
This silk robe is nice.
SEXY → PINK
カタン
CLATTER
Our duty is to keep guard over the Lord's bedchambers.
Yes.
...but, we serve both the inner and outer chambers.
Normally women serve the Lord there...
However, on rare occasions ...
If we are ordered to do so...
...we must also attend to his needs.
Oh, right!
About that...

Yes, about that...
I wanted to ask you.
What kind of *needs* do I attend to?
HUH?!
Wah?!
W-W-W-Wait a second!
What do you mean?
Why do I have to do *that*?!
I'm a boy. *A boy!!*

That is the best way to avoid being taken repeatedly.
Just lie still and leave everything to him.
I will take you there when summoned...
Wait here until then.
びっBL!?
B-Boys' Love?!
Seems familiar with it.
Please help me!
Wait!
I beg you!
GRAB
Wa-!

I...
I can't do it!
I seriously can't do it!
Please!
Save me!
It won't take very long...
Take it as a small part of your duty.
Endure it.
I will be keeping watch tonight.
How your heart or body hurts...
...you can tell me about it after it is over.
A-
After is too late!
GRAB

Just listen!
P-
Please!
PULL
HERE WE GO
Lend me your hands!
PAT

YANK
SQUISH
むにっ
ナ!
お
お
お
BLUSH
BLUSH
お
お
お
お
お
っ

You-!
You're a woman?!
That's right!
Why?!
Why pretend to be a boy?!
If I'm a page...
...I can protect the Lord at his side!
As a woman, I can only be his concubine.
I don't want that!
So, I tried my best to be a boy!
TEARY
Boys' love...
...is impossible for me!

I want to remain at his side!
I must...
...protect the Lord!
Tell me, Ranmaru!
What should I do?!
SHOOTS UP
If you are discovered to be a woman...
...do you know what will happen?!
What?!
For now...
...I will bring you there.
RATTLE
STOMP
STOMP
STARTLE

...vow to serve him with whole-hearted devotion.
In exchange...
...and beg desperately to be excused from that duty.
Go in there...
Perhaps...
...your feelings will reach the Lord.
If you are sincere enough...
The rest is up to you.
You must find a solution on your own.
And also...
...to not cast you away from this place.
...is to keep this matter from the Lord.
Perhaps ?!
We must hurry.
What I can do for now...
WHAT KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT?!

My Lord...
I have brought Tora Takei.
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP
You may enter.
Yes.
CLENCH
SLIDE
SQUEEZE
RATTLE
Pardon our intrusion.

ガラ
RATTLE
Pin-
Pon!
♡
!!
Come here.
Don't be shy.
Come here...
Tora.
I'M S-S-SCARED!!
カー
ばっ
BOW

I-
I'm sorry!
My apologies!
No...
Please forgive me, My Lord!
I'm extremely grateful, but...
...I can't obey your command!
For personal reasons...
I really, really, really, really...
...can't do it!
I
Do you dislike me?

I want to protect you!
That is the truth!
Only, I can't...
...attend to your needs.
SHOOTS UP
Of course not!
SOB
SOB
SOB
I beg you!
Please forgive me!
Only that, I can't do!
HOW DIRTY...
Santa Maria's robes...
The world's mysteries...
CHRISTIAN?
I thought you knew too much.
But, it is not unusual for a Christian.
Are you perhaps...
...a Christian?
The Christian priests...
...are against same-sex relationships.
BLASPHEMY!
Que mal!
Their principles appear different from ours.

You, who has refused to offer your body...
What can you do for me in exchange?
I...!
I will serve you with my life!
Of course you will.
It can't be helped then.
But, in exchange ...
...what can you do?
...
A...
...gun!
A gun?
A harquebus!

The famous cavalryman, Hyuga Nokami...
...could shoot a 34 centimeter target 45 meters away.
You can shoot twice as far?
...
A hundred meters?
I can shoot a target...
...at a distance of a hundred meters!
Yes!
I shall determine, now...
...whether you speak the truth!
SMIRK
Interesting!

SLIDE
I trust you all heard?
This boy will prove his skills!
E-EVERYONE WAS THERE?!
One of you...
...will stand at a hundred meters distance...
...and hold a thirty centimeter target!
What?!
Wait...
That's...

You said you could do it.
If you spoke the truth...
...why hesitate?
Anyone?
Is there no one willing?
CLATTER
That leaves me no choice.
The punishment for...
...disobeying and deceiving me is...
LIFT
...immediate beheading!
Go outside...
Please wait!

Allow me.
Well said!
Prepare the torch and target!
So, I trust him.
My Lord left him in my care.
Ran.
Do you trust him?
ヒ〃
オ ヨ
オ FWOOOOSSSSHHH

This is the longest and straightest road.
It is not a hundred meters...
...but it is longer than forty-five.
Tonight is a full moon...
You will be able to see the target clearly.
Ran.
Go.
Yes, My Lord.
RAISE
You have three shots.
Hitting it once is enough.
If you miss, you won't get any more chances.

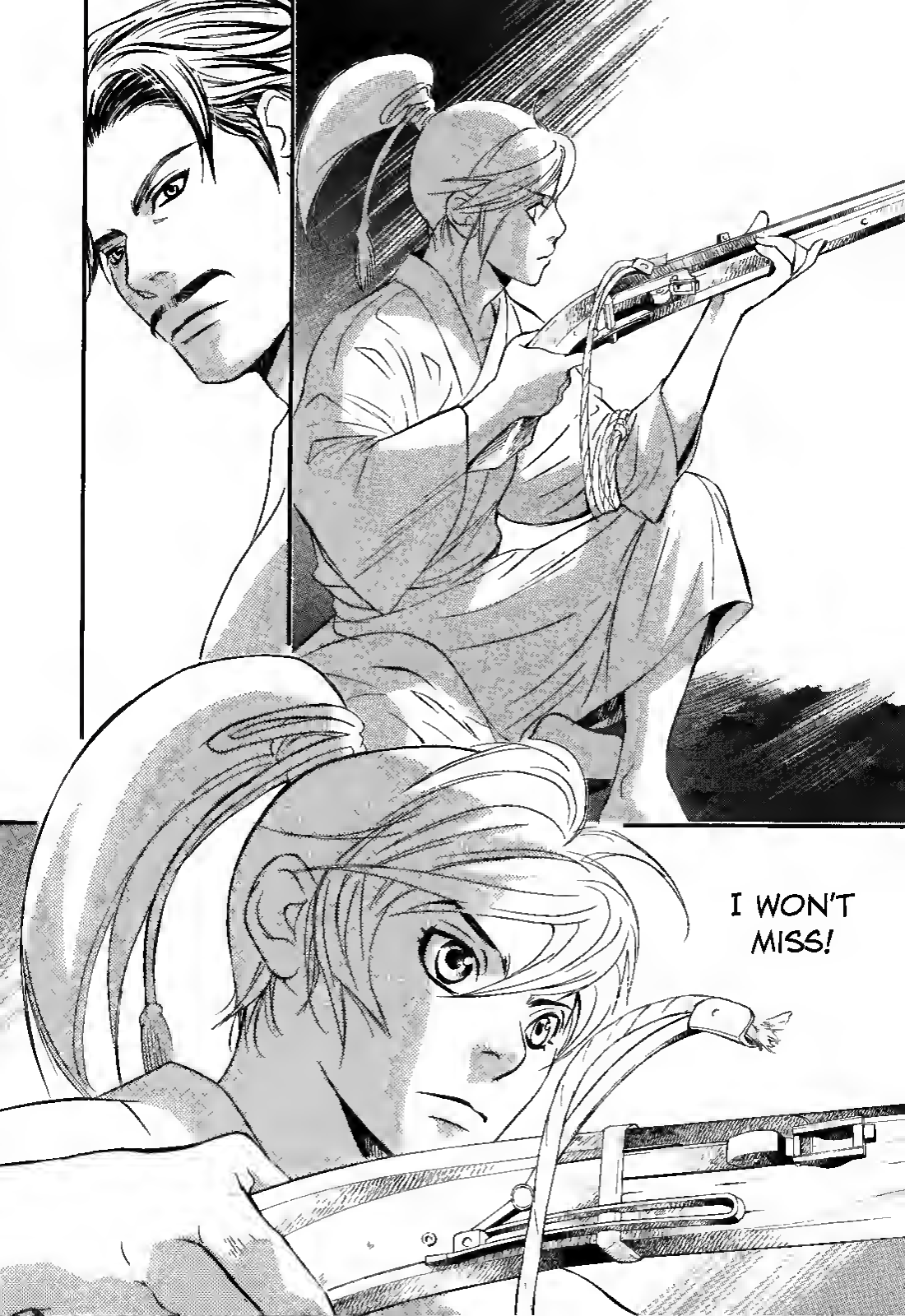
Yes, My Lord ...
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
TO SHOOT AT A LIVING TARGET...
IF I MISS...
...I'LL BECOME A MURDERER.
THAT SAID...
STUFF
THIS IS A WEAPON MADE TO KILL. THIS GUN...
THAT TIME, I WAS RECKLESS...
STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
I DIDN'T CONSIDER THE CON-SEQUENCES.
HOW SCARY...
SHUDDER
What's wrong?
Your hand is shaking...
Are you hesitating ?
Ran is important to me.
If you kill him...
...consider your life over.

SNAP
Damn it!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO DO IT!
YOU...
GRIP
...OLD BASTARD!
POW
PLEASE HIT IT!
WHIZZ

CRACK
OH MY GOD!!
Clouds have appeared.
It has gotten a little dark.
My Lord...
Oh my God!
Oh my God!
Oh my God!!

RAISE
Hmph.
To see the target clearly...
...allow me to hold a torch over it.
SMIRK
Toramatsu ...
Hmm.
They have courage...
NO WAY...
I JUST MISSED... ...RIGHT BEFORE THEIR EYES.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

THEY'RE ...
OBSTACLES
IT'S AMAZING, BUT...
...REALLY TOO COOL.
...THE OBSTACLES HAVE INCREASED.
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL KILL THEM!
SUCH COOL PEOPLE...
LIFT


I WON'T MISS!

POW
SCRITCH
WHIZZ

Magnificent!
You really hit it!
To hit a target from such a distance.
There is no such person even among my cavalry.
Ran. Toramatsu.
You two were also splendid!
You are the greatest!
Very courageous!
Pin-
Pon!
Yes, My Lord.

You all remember as well...
Pages must also enter the battlefield.
I have no need for cowards.
Risk your lives...
...and become strong men!
Yes!
Let me help you.
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
Oh! ...Sir Toramatsu. Thank you...
LIFT
Toramatsu is fine.
You were amazing, Tora.
You had a nice pose...
...as if you had experience in battle.
Not at all...
I was taught by someone.

You don't want to catch a cold.
Go get changed and rest.
Leave this to me.
I see...
Gunpowder and harquebuses...
The Christians possess many things.
Who?
Umm.
Something like that...
Christian priests?
SIGH
Ran-maru!
Are...
Are you hurt?!

I'm sorry!
It's because of me that...
A piece of wood struck me.
It was not caused by your bullet.
Umm.
I really... ...don't know how to thank you.
Don't misunderstand...
I still don't trust you completely.
Only that I...
...deceived the Lord.
I assisted in concealing your identity.
That renders me equally guilty.
For that reason...
...I will continue to cover for you.

The Lord dislikes half-hearted lies.
So we must make the lie seem like reality to the end.
You said that you came to protect the Lord.
I will believe those words.
However, should I suspect anything...
...I will immediately dispose of you.
To ensure that nothing happens...
...I will be keeping an eye on you.
I understand.
That's fine.

SQUEEZE
Thank you...
It's fine so long as you believe me.
...for helping me.
I'll be in your care.
The newcomer...
Tora Takei
Is that you?

Ah!
?!
GUSH
GRAB
But look, Hidekazu!
It's as if Senchiyo has come back from the dead!
Let him go Hori.
You're scaring him.

For someone to share the same appearance and skills as Manmi...
Even the Lord is affected.
Umm. It hurts.
Ah! Sorry...
Manmi is dead.
We brought his corpse back with our own hands.
I am Hori Hidemasa.
This here is Hasegawa Hidekazu.
We were friends of Manmi Shigemoto, Senchiyo.
I apologize for that introduction.
It must have disturbed you.
By the way...
Mori Ran appears to be busy with his duties today.
Yes.

The gunpowder and bullet goes in through the nozzle.
Make sure they are all the way in.
You cannot handle duties on your own yet.
So please teach the off-duty pages...
...how to use a harquebus.
Close the matchlock.
Hold the fuse...
Open the matchlock and put in the gunpowder.
Pull the lever.
Clamp the fuse...
Take aim and open the lid.
CLICK カチ…
POW

SHAKE
SHAKE
Do you want to try?
This guy is a coward.
Loud noises scare him.
It'll be fine...
I was also scared at first.
Here...
...let me try.

POW
ビ
THWACK
ミ
ッ
POW
PAT
ポニ
Do your best, Bo.
ンポ
PAT
You are a man.
レニ
SMILE

I see that the rumors about Manmi's revival...
...have some merit.
Is Sir Mori Ran here?
Yes.
I shall guide you to him right away.
Amazing!
He shot three times...
...but there's only one hole!

Also known as, Sir Akechi Mitsuhide.
Sir Koreto Hyuga no Kami.
Who was that?!
Heh.
THE INCIDENT AT HONNO-JI
YEAR 1582 (TENSHO 10)
NOBUNAGA WAS BETRAYED BY HIS RETAINER, AKECHI MITSUHIDE, AT HONNO-JI AND WAS FORCED TO COMMIT SUICIDE.
NOBUNAGA MUST NOT DIE AT HONNO-JI.
That person?!
THAT IS YOUR ONLY WAY HOME.
Akechi Mitsuhide?!
TENKA ICHI!! CONTINUES IN VOLUME 2

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「是非に及ばず(図録)」安土城考古博物館
「信長文書の世界(図録)」安土城考古博物館
「常設展示案内(図録)」安土城考古博物館
「京の雅び(図録)」林原美術館
「備前池田家の名宝(図録)」林原美術館
「京都時代MAP安土桃山編」光村推古書院
「週刊安土城をつくる」三浦正幸ほか/デアゴスティーニ
「クアトロ・ラガッツイ 天正少年使節と世界帝国」
若桑みどり/集英社
「鷹狩りへの招待」波多野 鷹/ちくまプリマーブックス
「将軍の鷹狩り」根崎光男/同成社
「狩野派決定版」山下裕司 監修/平凡社
「魔法の心理テスト」中嶋真澄/永岡書店
「詳説日本史 改訂版」山川出版社

THE MYSTERIOUS SENCHIYO
Ran.
Come here a minute...
Ranmaru around thirteen years old
I will teach you an important page lesson.
Yes.
Listen carefully...
Yes!
The Lord's [xx1xx] is very [xx2xx].
You might suddenly be [xx3xx].
So take care not to [xx4xx].

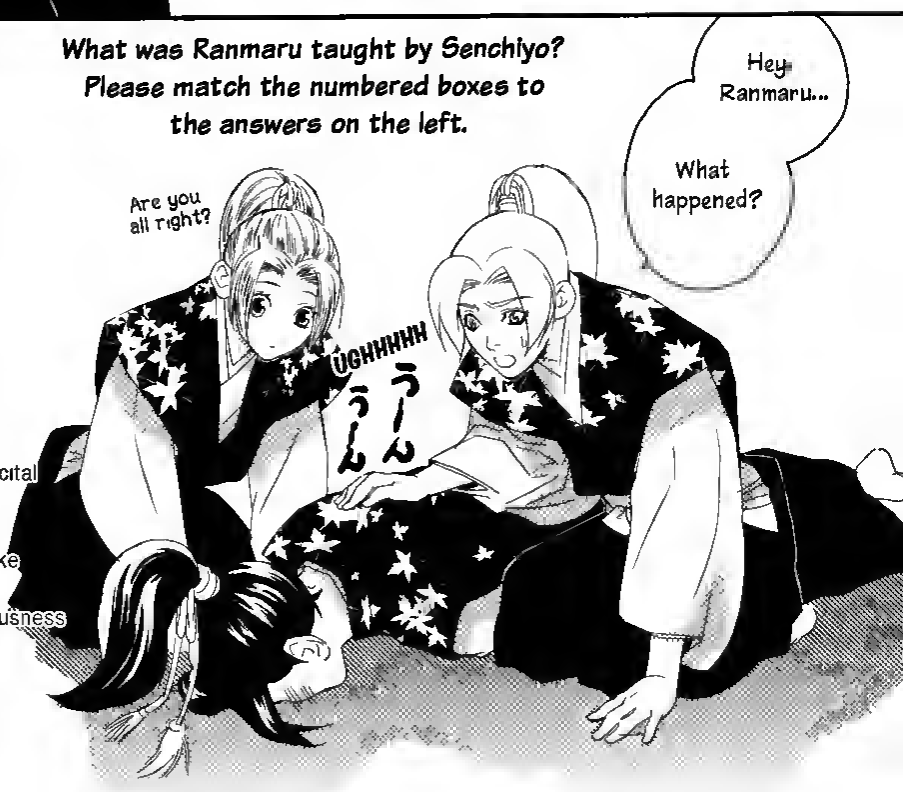
What was Ranmaru taught by Senchiyo? Please match the numbered boxes to the answers on the left.

1. A. Katana
   B. Gag
   C. Karaoke
   D. Other

2. A. Huge
   B. Many
   C. Lame
   D. Other

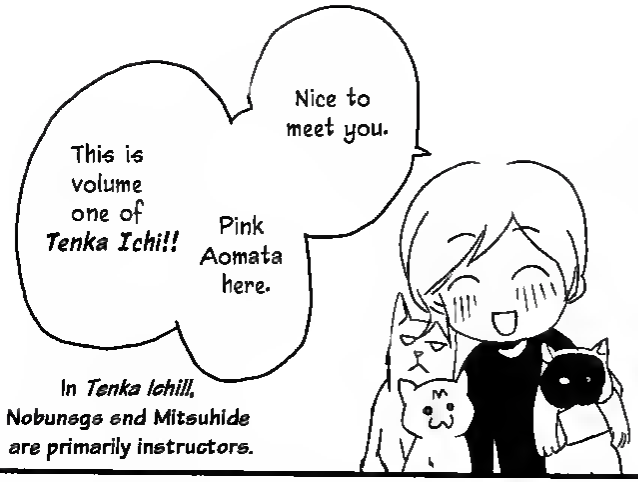
3. A. Rapid-fired
   B. Questioned
   C. Listen to a recital
   D. Other

4. A. Make a mistake
   B. Laugh at it
   C. Lose consciousness
   D. Other



The End

Afterword



In Tenka Ichi!!, Nobunaga and Mitsuhide are primarily instructors.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TIME SLIP IN THEIR UNIFORMS IN A YEAR, BUT...

...SOMEHOW, TORA'S HEART-THUMPING LIFE AS A PAGE IN THE WARRING STATES PERIOD HAS BEGUN!

FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT CLASS NUMBER 18

HAIR BUN

Tora's style when she time slipped.

BOW TIE

UNIFORM

SCHOOL BAG

SCHOOL JERSEY

SKETCHERS SNEAKERS

At Azuchi Castle, there were around 100 12-17 year-old pages serving Nobunaga... so it appears.

I AGREE WITH THE AGE AND DESCRIPTIONS, BUT 100 OF THEM?!

100 ?!

I READ FROIS'S ***JAPANESE HISTORY*** FOR RESEARCH IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH...

HE WAS BELOVED BY NOBUNAGA AND KNOWN FOR HIS BEAUTY. HIS BROTHERS BOMARU AND RIKIMARU WERE ALSO PAGES, BUT WERE THERE DOZENS MORE?

WHEN SPEAKING OF NOBUNAGA'S PAGE, THERE'S ONLY...

...MORI RANMARU.

RANMARU'S IMAGE

The name originally meant ***war***, but was changed to Nobunaga's favorite flower, the ***orchid***.

Beautiful, sexy, smart, and willingly accepts Nobunaga's ***love*** with his body.

There is also a ***Ranmaru legend*** that is fully-loaded with romance.

THROWING A MODERN HIGH SCHOOL GIRL INTO A CLASSROOM FULL OF BEAUTIFUL MEN FROM THE WARRING STATES PERIOD...

THAT FANTASY WAS WHAT STARTED THIS MANGA...

LAST SPRING

I wonder why.

For once, we're not talking about the Warring States period.

It's fine, isn't it?

Editor Kagawa

Really?

There was enough to fill one classroom.

Amazing!

SO, I SEARCHED FOR ANY PAGES CLOSE TO RANMARU DURING THE TENSHO ERA.

No, no. I need this for the manga

There can't be a hundred.

What happened to the history of Christianity?

FROIS SEEMS TO HAVE A TENDENCY TO EXAGGERATE IN HIS DESCRIPTIONS.

Nobunaga Oki. January 1582. When he showed his retainers the completed main shrine, he made each prepare 100 mon (entrance fee?) and waited at the exit with his hands out to collect them.

He he.

I like this story a lot.

It seems he just wanted to hear them say, *It's wonderful*!

Frois and Ota Gyuichi were ones who actually met him in person. They described him as not just being scary and intimidating, but sociable, humorous and a somewhat cute old man.

DURING HIS FIFTY YEARS OF LIFE, HE HAD BEEN IN 130 WARS. HE PASSED ON INHERITING THE FAMILY TITLE, LEFT THE FIGHTING TO HIS SUBORDINATES, AND ATTEMPTED TO UNIFY THE WHOLE COUNTRY.

HE WAS SO CLOSE.

THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS OF NOBUNAGA'S LIFE. 1579-1582.

CAN SHE CHANGE HISTORY AND RETURN TO THE MODERN ERA SAFELY (AND AS A VIRGIN)? PLEASE SUPPORT THIS VOLATILE GIRL'S LOVE AND SURVIVAL IN THE WARRING STATES PERIOD!

Cute. Cute.

HOW WILL THE HIGH SCHOOL LONER, TORA, SURVIVE IN A WORLD FULL OF WAR?

The Ranmaru in this comic is manly and cool, taking on the meaning of *war* rather than *orchid*

STAFF

Kimie Miyake
Masayo Yaauda
Yuko Kajikiyo
Renako Namba

And my husband who helped with Tora's surreal pictures (laughs).

Thank you!

Thank you all very much!

I didn't get to ask much, but it saved me!

Professor Ken Nagai from Ehime Museum who told me about Azuchi Castle's Kanoha's art.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me with this comic.

The gun team at Okayama Castle who told me about the harquebus.

Two very cool men!

SEE YOU IN VOLUME 2!

2009.5月. 碧也ピンク

May 2009 Pink Aomata

Tenka Ichi!! Vol.1
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Published by Shinshokan Publishing Co.,Ltd.
2-19-18, Nishikata Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN
www.shinshokan.co.jp

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Please let us know!

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